



July 20, 2015

Dear Karen Humes,

Citizens Against Recidivism, Inc. (Citizens) submits this comment in response to the Census Bureau's federal register notice regarding the Residence Rule and Residence Situations, 80 FR 28950 (May 20, 2015). Citizens urges you to count incarcerated people at their home address, rather than at the particular facility that they happen to be located at on Census day.

Citizens services people who are currently incarcerated and those returning who are mostly residents of economically disadvantaged communities.

Citizens has long been an advocate for the political empowerment of these communities as well as an advocate for the revising of disenfranchisement laws that works against these communities.

By designating a prison cell as a residence in the 2010 Census, the Census Bureau concentrated a population that is disproportionately male, urban, and African-American or Latino into just 5,393 Census blocks that are located far from the actual homes of incarcerated people. When this data is used for redistricting, prisons inflate the political power of those people who live near them.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Residence Rule and Residence Situations as the Bureau strives to count everyone in the right place in keeping with changes in society and population realities. Because [org name] believes in a population count that accurately represents communities, we urge you to count incarcerated people as residents of their home address.

With regards,

Mika'il DeVeaux
Executive Director

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